

Agronomists agree: High cost of fertilizer still well worth the price

The primary concern of farmers is elevating both their yields and profits, and probably nothing offers greater potential for both than increased and more efficient use of fertilizer, agronomists at Oklahoma State University agree.

Dr. Billy Tucker, OSU Extension agronomist, said fertilizer prices are predicted to double in price by the mid-1980s, possibly tempting some farmers to cut their ever-increasing input costs in the 1980s by trying to get by with less fertilizer.

Such a move would be self-defeating, he said, because "it's the price the commodity brings—and not of the fertilizer itself—that determines how expensive it is."

The only alternative farmers have to combat increasing production costs is greater productivity per unit, says Dr. Bobby Daran, an agronomist who is head of the Potash and Phosphate

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tions between fertilizer testing and fertilizer use" in sales by fertilizer dealers who offer this service to farmers at OSU.

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Some soils dropped to a pH range of 4.3 to 4.4, causing toxicity to wheat and poor performance, and greater growth of unwanted weeds and grasses, he said.

Some wheat farmers in the north central and northwestern part of the state have so single-mindedly used anhydrous nitrates and other nitrogen to increase crop yields that they've been lax in keeping tabs of the other needs of the soil.

Applying lime to correct this acidity has brought some "dramatic changes," Fain said, but the problem is far from over.

In contrast to 1972, when only about six percent of soils in those areas showed acidity, that figure for Fain's area is now around 30%, he said.

The result has been excessive soil acidity on some of these lands that

first came to attention in the 1970s, said Dale Fain, OSU Extension area agronomist stationed in Enid.

Under the direction of new president, John Huston, the National Live Stock and Meat Board plans to begin work on an industry-sponsored beef research, education and market development program, Huston told Commodity News Service (CNS).

Huston said his primary goal as president of the NLSM will be to protect meat's traditional market share and work for total consumer acceptance of meat. To reach these industry-wide goals, the Meat Board will continue to combine efforts with the National Pork Producers Council, National Wool Growers Assn. and the new beefcheckoff program.

The new beef program will be coordinated by the Meet Board's Beef Industry Council, along with other national and state beef organizations, Huston said.

To aid in the development of the new program, a

margin, left the beef

industry with little hope of a national checkoff program in the future, sources said. That's where the Meat Board plane to come in.

The Beefendum would have been officiant," said Huston. "However, and organization needs to reflect the needs of its members, and cattlemen want more local control. I think this program will be stronger because of the

local support."

To reach their goals,

Huston said, the Meat Board must begin coordinating the industry's efforts by selecting a collection rate and method as new funding can begin. Presently, the Meat Board does not have sufficient funds for national consumer advertising, which is imperative to develop a funding system that will generate the kind

(Continued on page 11)

California Ag Dept. sponsors fuel plant design competition

A farm-sized alcohol fuel plant design contest is being sponsored jointly by the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Solid Waste Management Board. Entry deadline is May 31, 1981.

Contract awards of \$55,000 for medium size and \$35,000 for small size plants will be presented to the two winning finalists for the preparation of construction and operating manuals. These manuals will be

available to the public.

A judging panel will judge the technical feasibility of the preliminary design drawings and performance data.

Three semi-finalists in each size category will be chosen for an on-site visit by the panel. Final selection will be based on a demonstration of plant operation and alcohol production.

The judging team will have representatives from government, colleges and industrial companies are invited to compete. Out-of-

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September 1, 1980

Central Edition

Vol. 60, No. 34



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Meat Board to coordinate beef checkoff

Under the direction of new president, John Huston, the National Live Stock and Meat Board plans to begin work on an industry-sponsored beef research, education and market development program, Huston told Commodity News Service (CNS).

Survey was conducted recently by Doane Agricultural Service, Inc. For it, 4,800 cattle producers and feeders were questioned about beef promotion.

Cattlemen indicated a preference for a state and national program to accomplish the goals, Huston said. As a result of the survey, the Meat Board and other industry groups are more clearly aware of the beef industry's wants and needs, and can more effectively serve them, he said.

It is unfortunate this survey wasn't conducted seven years ago before the first attempt to pass the Beefendum," Huston said, referring to the Beef Research and Information Act voted down by cattlemen in national referendum in 1977 and 1980.

The sound defeat of the proposed program early this year, by about a 65-to-35 margin, left the beef

industry with little hope of a national checkoff program in the future, sources said. That's where the Meat Board plane to come in.

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Unsound accusations:

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Nutrition expert denounces beef health attacks

By DOUG LIERLE

Present evidence strongly indicates that the latest accusations against beef are unsound. But too few people are telling the public that these accusations are false.

In a keynote address by one of the nation's leading authorities on nutrition and health, Dr. Charles F. Enloe, Jr., urged more than 650 participants attending the

26th annual Colorado Cattle Feeders Assn. convention in Vail to get this important information to the public.

Enloe, president of Nutrition Today, Inc., warned cattle feeders attending the August 22 meeting that consumerism has grown to be a large, money-making business... which is part of the reason the public and the press has accepted the allegations against beef as

fact.

"The theory that animal fat causes heart diseases has been wounded critically, if not mortally," Enloe said.

"And the rationalization surrounding the beef/cancer connection is cockeyed, and one that is not being challenged."

Dr. Enloe warned the audience about various politicians and members of government that promote ideas and opinions that are highly dangerous to the beef industry and the free market system. He said that Senator George McGovern, who comes from a beef-producing state (South Dakota), has been heard publicly relating the consumption of beef to an immoral act. He said many people believe it is immoral to eat beef because they feel we are taking food out of people's mouths by growing beef on land that should be growing crops and vegetables.

And Carol Tucker Foreman, an assistant secretary of agriculture, believes and has been quoted as saying that producing beef in this country is just as damaging as burning our crops in the fields. "Well, as my dad

used to say," added Enloe, "don't let that stuff get in your shoes."

In closing, Enloe urged the cattle feeder audience to beware of Senator Kennedy and his followers because of his belief that the farmer and rancher should not be allowed to produce anything he wants, anyway that be wants. He warned of creeping socialism in this country and urged the industry to promote and get the word out to the public.

"Agriculture is what makes this country strong," he said. "We are truly the 'food champions' of the world."

In another key address,

Dr. Pierre A. Rinfret, an economist and president of

(Continued on page 11)

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DR. PIERRE RINFRET
"There is no more self-reliance. We are all looking to the government for help."

DR. CORTEZ ENLOE
"... rationalization surrounding the beef/cancer connection is cockeyed..."

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Hjort predicts 10% food price hike

Retail food prices are expected to increase 10 to 15% from 1980 to 1981, the USDA's chief economist, Howard Hjort, said, according to CNS.

Farm prices will be higher in 1981 and will be a more important factor in moving up retail food prices, Hjort said at a press briefing following release of the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index for July.

Retail food prices in 1980 now are expected to increase 8.9%, compared with USDA's earlier estimate.

Although meat prices for July still were below the

year-ago retail level, they accounted for most of the increase in the food CPI for July.

Farm prices during the third quarter of 1980 are expected to increase 13 to 15% at an annual rate, Hjort said. Although the drought has had some effect, a more important factor in the increase has been higher-than-expected broiler and pork prices, he said.

USDA had expected larger slaughter rates for hogs during the third quarter because of the high inventory numbers shown in USDA's latest report, Hjort said.

There's a major uncertainty about where these hogs are," Hjort said. "Are they indeed out there? If they are, they've got to start coming to market soon."

This situation should moderate the food component of the CPI to a 8% to 10% annual rate during the second quarter of 1981, Hjort said.

The post office disappeared in the summer when the post office outlet closed due to the closure of the post office.

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Scabies outbreak has season drop

The number of cattle scabies outbreaks reported to the USDA declined again this summer, the USDA said, according to CNS.

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service said there were only nine cases confirmed in June and July, three each month.

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Witnesses present "good case":

Proxmire hears embargo pros

Administration witnesses presented a good case for continuing the U.S. grain and technological embargo against the Soviet Union during two days of U.S. Senate banking committee hearings that concluded recently, according to committee chairman, William Proxmire, D-Wis.

According to CNS, Proxmire suggested that additional hearings on the effectiveness of the embargo should continue. "I think these (banking) hearings have concluded in (making) a good case for continuing the embargo. We have not brought the Russians to

their knees ... but we have hurt them," Proxmire said. Despite Proxmire's assertions, five senators and a panel of grain grower representatives testified that the embargo should be lifted immediately because it has had no effect on the Soviet Union, but has hurt U.S. farmers.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland said officials from the departments of state and commerce testified in favor of continuing the embargo.

They opposed a bill introduced by Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., that would lift the embargo through en

amendments to the Export Administration Act of 1979. Bergland asserted that the agricultural embargo — which denies the Soviet Union any U.S. grain in excess of the eight million tons contracted for in the five-year U.S.-USSR grains supply agreement — had forced the Soviets to cull their livestock herds, lower their livestock production goals, and pay inflated prices for grain from other supplies.

The best way to make a long story short is to have the boss walk in.

Show Results

WYOMING STATE FAIR

Douglas, Wyo., August 22

ANGUS

Judge: Gise Hetzel, Kildon, S.D.

BULLS

Grand champion and junior champion: Milo Rykema, Mt. Rashmore Angus, Rapid City, S.D. and Hukfeldt-Krebs, Gordon, Neb., ex Geiger.

Patriot 808, 1/10/79 by Bayre Patriot. Reserve champion and senior champion: Flash Associates, Clearedon, Texas, on Thomas Flash, 2/10/78 by Thomas Cheps. Senior bull: Roised Burrows, Clearedon, Texas, on Rosher Frostate 2546, 9/18/78 by Rose Free-state 765. Reserve senior bull: Mid-American Cattle Co., Elsworth, Kan., ex Gorden Alexander 99C, 8/24/79 by Alexander the Great. Intermediate champion: Wiedy Acres Angus, Brink Fitzgerald, Harrison, Neb., on Wiedy Blueprint 828R, 5/7/79 by Dakota Poundmaker 1618. Reserve intermediate: Rudolph Bros., Chinook, Mont., and Big Sky Angus, Lavies, Mont., on Rudolph Poundmaker CDR 23, 8/18/78 by Poundmaker Shetland, MC 578. Reserve junior: Rudolph ex Big Sky on Sir John Henry, 2/12/79 by Thor. Limelight. Reserve senior: George Graham, Clearedon, Texas, on Prospector Prince 80177, 8/12/78 by RF Prospector Eason 468.

FEMALEs: Grand champion and intermediate champion: Wiedy Acres Angus on Wiedy Pride 8422, 8/17/78 by Columbus Adventure 2057. Reserve grand and junior champion: Wiedy Acres on Windy Blackcap 9829, 8/14/78 by Dakota Poundmaker 1618. Senior heifer: Gerald Kirwan, Jr., Saalfeld, Neb., ex Askey 8G00D. Eureka 241B9, 9/27/78 by Schaefferstock Quadrat N137. Reserve intermediate heifer: Hukfeldt-Krebs ex Lucy HK 1088, 9/18/79 by Antikian Dynamo 61A8. Reserve intermediate: Wiedy Acres on Windy Elba 9438, 8/9/78 by Columbus Adventure 2057. Reserve junior: Hukfeldt-Krebs ex Stake Odd HK 29, 1/10/78 by Dakota Poundmaker 1578.

GROUPS: Get of sire: Wiedy Acres on Dakota Poundmaker 1618. Junior get of sire: Wiedy Acres on Columbus Adventure 2057. Breeder: ex head: Wiedy Acres.

A total of 80 head of Angus cattle was shown at this strong show. Quality was strong as was interest in this show.

—JERRY YORK

HEREFORDS

Judge: David Bremer, Alton, Ill.

BULLS

Grand champion and senior champion: TT Herd Cattle Co., Connel, Wash., Schrader Cattle Co., Palouse, Neb., and Morgan and Marquette Cattle Co., Sedgwick, Colo., on SG Classic, 9/16/79 by SO Mark Arthur 55. Reserve grand champion and champion yearling: Jim Morris, Louisiana, Mo., on JRM Banner L500, 3/26/79 by WBF PRL Justa Banbar. Champion bull calf: Ted Cooper and Floyd Wampler, Paso Robles, Calif., on TRO-L-Domino 8112, 9/18/79 by L1 Adv. Domino 7027. Reserve bull calf: Cooper and Wampler on TRC-L1 Domino 9105, 10/3/79 by WCF L1 Domino 5137. Reserve champion yearling: Fulshor Herefords, Amherst, Colo., on CS Prospecto 9242, 2/10/79 by Prospecto 7054. Reserve senior

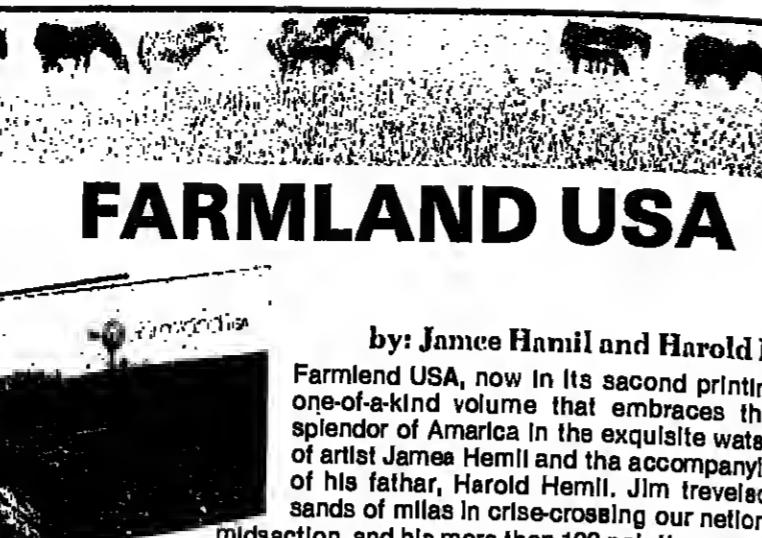
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Friday, September 19
8:00 a.m. — Bluebonnet Classic Open Brangus Show (Washington County Fairgrounds)

10:00 a.m. — Bluebonnet Classic Junior Brangus Show

12:30 p.m. — Lunch, Windy Acres Brangus

1:30 p.m. — Windy Acres Brangus "Genetics for the 80's" Sale

3:30 p.m. — Viewing of cattle, Willow Springs Ranch

7:00 p.m. — WSR/WAB Gala, Etwin's Camphouse, Brenham

Cocktails/Dinner/Dancing to the "Lew Anthony Band"

Saturday, September 20 — Willow Springs Ranch

7:30 a.m. — Viewing of cattle (Coffee/Juice/Rolls)

9:00-10:30 a.m. — Junior Showman's Clinic

11:30 a.m. — Lunch

1:00 p.m. — WSR "Heart of the Herd" Production Sale

After Sale — Cocktails

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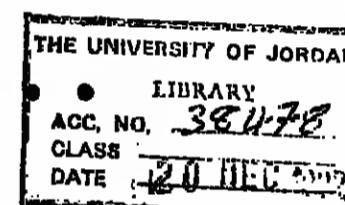
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72 grain production, food and

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Farms and Ranches**MOUNTAIN**
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Farms and Ranches**CANADIAN**
Farms and Ranches**CANADIAN**
Farms and Ranches**BUSINESS**
INVESTMENTS

MONTANA WHEAT & CATTLE RANCH
LISTING #1109
7,000 Acre wheat and cattle ranch located in eastern Montana. 6,000 acres deeded and 1,000 acres leased. Owner states ranch will run 100 cows and calves along with 4,000 acres of farming. There are 150 acres of irrigated ground and an abundance of stockwater. Improvements include an older 2 bedroom home, a 64' x 84' shed, 32' x 70' cement block building, 180' x 100' barn, and corrals. This ranch is one of the best combination units in the state. Sale is at an exceptionally high rating. This ranch must be seen to appreciate its potential. Reasonably priced at \$1,400,000 with easy terms. The price includes the planting of 4,000 acres into winter wheat this fall.

Contact:
Western Farm Management



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